

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

FIGURES 1a and 1a have been amended to include the legend "prior art."

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## REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 1 and 10 were rejected as being indefinite. In response, these claims were amended to provide an antecedent basis for the term "waveguide wire" to overcome this basis of the rejection.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,989,932, to Freund et al.; U.S. Patent No. 6,386,533, to Chakrabarti et al.; or U.S. Patent No. 6,131,263, to Freund et al., in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,618,409, to Hu et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of these claims and submit the following.

As described in page 4 of the present application, a space bar 20 of the present invention, according to various exemplary embodiments, has a first surface 23a and a second surface 23b, and is inserted between adjacent laser-diode chips 25 that each have a waveguide wire 28. The first surface 23a of the space bar 20 provides a trench 24 crisscrossed with the waveguide wire 28 (of an adjacent laser-diode chip) on both of its fringes. Thus, while the first surface 23a of the space bar 20 adheres to the first electrode surface 29a of the laser-diode chip 25, a partial resonance facet of the laser-diode chip 25 is prevented from being covered by the space bar 20. Referring to Figure 8, according to various alternative embodiments of the present invention, a space bar may be omitted and a trench 82 may be formed on a second electrode surface of a laser-diode chip 80 itself, to be crisscrossed with a waveguide wire 84 (of a first electrode surface of an adjacent laser-diode chip) on both of its fringes. In all embodiments, a trench (24 or 82) is formed to be crisscrossed with a waveguide wire (28 or 84) on its both fringes to thereby prevent a partial resonance facet of the laser-diode chip (25 or 80) from being covered, i.e., to thereby expose a partial resonance facet of the laser-diode chip. None of the cited references teaches or suggests this feature of the present invention as recited in independent Claims 1 and 10 of the present application.

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Specifically, independent Claim 1 of the present application recites "said first surface [of a space bar] having a trench crisscrossed with said waveguide wire [of a laser-diode chip] on both of its fringes. Similarly, independent Claim 10 of the present application recites "said second electrode surface [of a laser-diode chip] has a trench crisscrossed with said waveguide wire [of a first electrode surface of an adjacent laser-diode chip] on its both fringes."

As none of the cited references, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the subject matter explicitly recited in Claims 1 and 10, these claims are allowable over the cited references. In particular, applicants note that none of the cited references teaches or suggests a technical feature directed to exposing both fringes of a waveguide wire formed on the surface of a laser-diode chip by arranging a "trench" that crisscrosses the waveguide wire at the fringes.

The rest of the claims depend from either Claim 1 or Claim 10 and, accordingly, these claims are also believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons why independent Claims 1 and 10 are allowable.

Based on the foregoing, applicants respectfully request allowance of the present application including Claims 1-13. If the Examiner should have any further issues to resolve, he is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

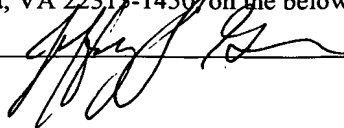
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